

## PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 20 November 1958	2. LOCATION Greece 24.10N 58.28E Saudi Arabia/N of Matrah	12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical  <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 20/1920Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual. <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Civilian	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10 seconds	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE NW to S
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING 1) flaming obj w/white head, a fiery tail, climbing fm NE to S. First detected 10dgrs above horizon & disappeared at 60dgrs above horizon. (LR 702-58) 2) Letter fm ██████████, Saudi Arabia American Oil Co employee describing same phenomena. Direction South & time 1955-1920 Check S. Described as much brighter than shooting star.	11. COMMENTS Obj has all characteristics of a meteor.	

[Redacted]  
11/22/58  
WFO/ans  
WFO

November 22, 1958

Commanding Officer,  
Wright Air Force Base,  
Ohio, U.S.A.

Dear Sir;

I am writing to report an observation of an unidentified "flying" object in the event it may have some significance. I feel there is most likely some logical explanation for the particular phenomena which I observed but its explanation is beyond me.

At some time between 11:15 and 11:20 PM, Ras Tanura time on the evening of November 20, 1958 I was with a group of people on a house lawn located directly on the beach of the Persian Gulf. One of the members of the party said look at the falling star. However what we saw was much brighter than any falling star and was travelling absolutely horizontal with the horizon in a general north-south direction. Not knowing what it was or its distance away I couldn't begin to estimate its speed but I would estimate it was less than one minute before it finally disappeared in the south. As it receded the light or glow turned greenish in color and finally vanished. When it was directly across from us it appeared as an extremely bright ball of light with a short tail. No sound was heard so it couldn't have been anything close by.

All present agreed on what had been seen but no one came forth with any good suggestion as to what we had just seen.

For reference purposes I am a senior construction engineer with the Arabian American Oil Co. Those with me who observed this phenomena were my wife, Dr. and Mrs. [Redacted] (the [Redacted] in Ras Tanura), Mr. [Redacted] (acting head [Redacted] in Ras Tanura), and Mr. and Mrs. [Redacted] [Redacted] in the local engineering offices). There were others present but those listed are the particular ones who were in the front of the house at the time this was first seen.

This information is being passed on for what it may be worth. If your people have any commonplace explanation for it I would be most appreciative to know what it is.

Very truly yours,

COVER SHEET												SUSPENSE			
ORIGIN OF BASIC												DATE			
												ASSIGNED BY			
DATE						TYPE						NO.			
SUBJECT															
UFO Sighting, Saudi Arabia [REDACTED]															
ROUTING															
Initial "IN" column to denote review prior to action. Initial "OUT" column to denote review of completed action. (X for action; ✓ for coordination.)															
IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	
	OIN-1			OIN-2			OIN-3			OIN-4			AFOIN		
	OIN-1X			OIN-2X			OIN-3X			OIN-4X			AFOIN-X		
													AFOIN-X		
													AFOIN-X1		
													AFOIN-X2		
													AFOIN-X3		
													AFOIN-X4		
													AFOIN-X5		
													AFOIN-Z		
													CABLES		
													M	FILE	
													S		
													R	DISPATCH	
TO: SAFIS-3, Attn: Maj. L. Tacker												DATE 9 Dec. 1958			
FROM: AFCIN-4E4												COMMENT NO. 1			
COMMENTS (Use reverse, if necessary)												AFCIN-4E4/Maj Friend/ac/69216/Bldg 828			
<p>1. The information received in Mr. [REDACTED] letter is very limited. However, it is the opinion of the ATIC that the phenomena viewed by this gentleman and his companions was a fireball. A fireball is a meteor of uncommon brightness, by definition brighter than -3 magnitude.</p> <p>2. Fireballs often leave a short trail, are sporadic in their origin and often change color in flight. Study of these meteors also points out the infrequency of their occurrence. Experienced astronomers rarely see more than one in a lifetime.</p> <p>3. Because these items are usually an initial experience they have a startling effect on the observers.</p>															
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Nicholas P. T.</i></p> <p>H. K. GILBERT Colonel, USAF AFCIN-4E</p>															
<p>1 Incl: Ltr dtd 22 Nov 58, F. T. [REDACTED]</p>															

*between* 11:15-11:20 20 Nov<sup>o</sup> 20 Nov 58  
*Dec 1958*

16 December 1958

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of 22 November 1958 concerning an unidentified flying object you saw on 20 November on the beach of the Persian Gulf.

The information received in your letter was limited but it is the opinion of the Air Technical Intelligence Center that the phenomena viewed by your group was a fireball. A fireball or bolide is a meteor of uncommon brightness, by definition brighter than minus three magnitude.

Fireballs often leave a short trail, are sporadic in their origin and often change color in flight. A study of the meteors points out the infrequency of their occurrence. Experienced astronomers rarely see more than one in their lifetime.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE J. TACKER  
Major, USAF  
Executive Officer  
Public Information Division  
Office of Information Services

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Section "A" [REDACTED]

16 NOV 1958

1920Z 20 Dec

91

UFO Analysis Sheet 1B-724-58 Refers to AFCIN-4E1

Location [redacted]

Date 20 Nov 58

Hour (Z) 1920Z

WX Unknown

Description: Flaming object with white heat, a fiery tail  
climbing from NE to S. First sighted 10 seconds apart  
body red disappearance at 30 degrees above horizon. Object  
observed for 10 seconds.

Direction of Motion NE to S

Satellite: Picked out  
(AFCIN-4E1) Phone: 69219

Astronomical Phenomena  
Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc.

Meteor

Radar Analysis (AFCIN-4E1) None

Natural Phenomena  
Ball Lightning, etc. Picked out